

**SECRET**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

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**COUNTRY** East Germany/Poland

**SUBJECT** Ministry for Heavy Industry:  
Coal Imports from Poland

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1. On 25 June 1955, East German Minister for Heavy Industry Fritz Selbmann informed Heinrich Rau, Minister for Foreign and Domestic Trade, that he, Selbmann, could not agree to the amounts of pit coal Poland was planning to deliver to East Germany in June 1955.

2. Poland intended to deliver about 134,000 tons of small flaming coal (Flammfeinkohle) and about 90,000 tons of regular Flammkohle (10-30mm.) in the month of June 1955. Deliveries in the months following June were to be smaller. As it was, however, the Ministry for Heavy Industry could not absorb such quantities of these types of coal. Measures had already been undertaken (some of them actually in contradiction to the Ministry's basic policy in financing and cost questions) to increase stockpiling, but even these could bring about a maximum consumption in June 1955 of only 95,000 tons of small flaming coal (i.e. about 2,000 tons daily) and 74,000 tons of flaming coal 10-30 mm. (500 tons daily maximum).

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3. Selbmann underscored his position with the following table:

	Small flaming coal (Flammfeinkohle)	Flaming coal (Flammkohle 10-30 mm.)
Planned import orders, 2nd quarter 1955	315,000 tons	84,000 tons
Received in April/May 1955	239,000 tons	155,000 tons
Remaining requirements, June 1955	76,000 tons	-
Planned Polish deliveries, June 1955	134,000 tons	90,000 tons

In addition, he mentioned that the Ministry for Heavy Industry's ~~small~~ coal (Feinkohle) requirements have declined for various reasons.

4. Selbmann therefore informed Rau that he would accept no further amounts of this coal and that the Ministry's marketing organs had been so instructed. Furthermore, he was assuming that the financing of deliveries already under way and the extraordinary costs would be taken over by the foreign trade organs. In July 1955 the Ministry would be willing to accept a maximum of 50,000 tons of small flaming coal from the above deliveries, but that was all.

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